

Singapore's contributions to Iraq's reconstruction and stabilization. He commends the professionalism of the Singapore Armed Forces personnel who have been deployed in support of Iraq operations over the past two years and of the Singapore Police Force, which has provided critically important training.

The President and Prime Minister express optimism about the outlook in Southeast Asia. They welcome successful elections, the strengthening of democratic institutions, and renewed economic growth in the region and agree that these trends should be encouraged. The two leaders note the progress countries in the region have made in disabling terrorist networks through enhanced cooperation among ASEAN nations and with the international community. The President and Prime Minister condemn the terrorist attacks in London and call on governments around the world to fight terrorism together. They agree that a sustained, long-term effort is needed to defeat terrorism and reaffirm their commitment to continue working closely on law enforcement, non-proliferation, and other appropriate measures to address all aspects of the war on terror.

The President and Prime Minister express satisfaction with the seamless cooperation between the United States and Singapore in responding to the humanitarian disaster caused by the tsunamis in the Indian Ocean. The two leaders note the increasing importance of the Regional Emerging Diseases Intervention (REDI) Centre in light of growing concern over transnational-public-health threats such as SARS and avian influenza. They also note the importance of the Straits of Malacca, and President Bush pledges U.S. support for the region's initiatives for maritime security.

The President and Prime Minister welcome the successful implementation of the U.S.-Singapore Free Trade Agreement and the growth in bilateral trade since it became effective on January 1, 2004. They express satisfaction with growing commercial ties between our two countries and are confident that trade and investment relations will continue to expand.

The President and Prime Minister pledge to sustain the close cooperation between the

United States and Singapore in key regional and global multilateral institutions. The President reaffirms U.S. support for ASEAN and the ASEAN Regional Forum. The two leaders note the central role of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum in supporting trade and investment liberalization and in promoting cooperative efforts to strengthen regional security. With the forthcoming first Meeting of the East Asia Summit in Kuala Lumpur in December 2005, they agree that the future development of cooperation among countries in the region should be open, transparent, and inclusive. The President and Prime Minister reaffirm the warm and strong ties between the United States and Singapore, which are grounded in historical cooperation, common interests, and shared strategic perspectives.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

Remarks Honoring NCAA Championship Teams

July 12, 2005

Thank you all. Please be seated. Not you. ° Welcome to the South Lawn of the White House for Championship Day. Today we have the largest group of NCAA champs ever gathered at the White House, and we want to thank you all for coming. I am honored to be joined on stage by the captains of the 15 teams that we're honoring today. Thank you all for being here. Congratulations for being such strong leaders.

I appreciate the Members of Congress who have come today. Welcome. We're proud you're here. I want to thank the coaches and athletic directors who are here today. But most of all, I want to congratulate the men and women who have conducted themselves in the field of play in such a manner that they're called champions. Welcome.

UCLA has won more NCAA championships than any school in the Nation, so it's fitting that three of the champs here today wear the uniform of the Bruins. Back in December, the UCLA men's water polo team

° The President's remarks were directed to team captains.

won the national championship with an over-time victory against Stanford. Congratulations, and welcome. This spring the UCLA women's water polo team beat Stanford to win the national championship. Welcome to the UCLA women's polo team. And finally, the UCLA men's team won the national championship. I had an honor to meet all three teams. I'm glad you're here. Thanks for coming. Congratulations on a job well done.

And then we have the Georgia Bulldogs, who are well represented today. [Applause] It's the South Lawn. Behave yourselves. [Laughter] The Georgia men's golf team posted a wire-to-wire victory at the NCAA champions. In the final round, interestingly enough, all five of Georgia's golfers shot the same score, even par. That's called consistency. The Georgia women's swimming and diving team brought home their fourth NCAA championship. Interestingly enough, the Lady Bulldogs won all five of the relay races. And finally, the Georgia women's gymnastics team is with us today. They started the championship meet seeded number 12 and came out number 1. Congratulations to the teams from Georgia.

Two of the teams here made history by winning their schools' first national championships in their respective sports. The Northwestern's women's lacrosse team posted an undefeated season. Twenty-one straight victories got them here to the White House. Congratulations to you all.

And then the Michigan women's softball team is here today. One of the women asked me if I wanted to hit against her. I said, "I don't think so." [Laughter] This will interest you. The first 33 games that the Michigan women's softball team played were on the road. It turns out it's a little chilly in Michigan about softball time. They won 32 of the 33. It was an auspicious beginning to a championship season. Welcome to the Michigan women's team.

Two of the teams here are celebrating a championship for the second year in a row. The Stanford women's tennis team finished with an undefeated season and a repeat national championship. They beat the Texas Longhorns in the finals.

The Minnesota women's hockey team—the Gophers beat Harvard last year to come to the White House; they beat Harvard this year to come to the White House. Congratulations to the mighty Gophers of Minnesota.

The Auburn men's swimming and diving team is celebrating a three-peat. Congratulations. Glad you all are here. Thanks for the Speedo. [Laughter] I'm not going to wear it—[laughter]—in public that is. [Laughter]

The Duke women's golf team is here to celebrate the national championship in—they were in 2002. They're back. Coach Brooks of the Duke women's golf team has now won three national championships with the Blue Devils. That ties him with Coach K. Therefore, he shall be known as Coach B—not bad. [Laughter]

The Johns Hopkins men's lacrosse team is with us today. And Congressman Elijah Cummings is here to honor them. Johns Hopkins compiled a perfect record and pulled out a 9–8 victory to win the first championship they've had in almost two decades. Congratulations to Johns Hopkins.

The Pepperdine men's volleyball team is with us today. They brought the championship trophy back to Malibu in the first time in more than a decade. I want to thank them for the gift, Surfboard One. [Laughter]

And finally, we honor the Oklahoma men's gymnastics team. It's the third national championship they've won in the past 4 years.

It's such an honor to have you all here. I want to thank you for being champs on the field. I want to thank you for being champs off the field. I know you know this, but there's a lot of boys and girls who watch you all to determine what it means to be a champ. You probably don't realize it, but when you're in the field of play, there's a lot of kids wondering what it takes.

And therefore, when you serve your community, you're teaching a kid to read, or when you take the extra time to set a good example, you really are affecting people's lives. See, you have a responsibility as a champ, not only to win contests for your respective schools and set personal goals and achieve them, but I think you have a responsibility as a champ to set a good example. And I've read about the mentoring programs

and the hospital work and all the good works that you have done, and I want to thank you for setting such a good example.

Again, welcome to the White House. If you're a junior or a sophomore, work hard and come back. I'll be here to greet you. In the meantime, may God bless you all and your families. Thanks for coming.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:48 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Dan Brooks, head women's golf coach, and Mike Krzyzewski, head men's basketball coach, Duke University.

Memorandum Regarding Drawdown Under Section 506(a)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act 1961, as Amended, To Furnish Anti-Terrorism Assistance to the Philippines

July 12, 2005

Presidential Determination No. 2005-28

Memorandum for the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense

Subject: Presidential Determination Regarding Drawdown Under Section 506(a)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act 1961, as amended, to Furnish Anti-Terrorism Assistance to the Philippines

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, including section 506(a)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, 22 U.S.C. 2318(a)(2) (the "Act"), I hereby determine that it is in the national interest of the United States to draw down articles, services, military education, and training from the Department of Defense for the purpose of providing anti-terrorism assistance for the Philippines.

I therefore direct the drawdown of up to \$10 million of articles, services, military education, and training from the inventory and resources of the Department of Defense for the Philippines for the purposes and under the authorities of chapter 8 of part II of the Act.

The Secretary of State is authorized and directed to report this determination to the

Congress and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., July 19, 2005]

This memorandum will be published in the *Federal Register* on July 20.

Memorandum on Delegation of Functions Under Section 9 of the AGOA Acceleration Act of 2004

July 12, 2005

Memorandum for the United States Trade Representative

Subject: Delegation of Functions under Section 9 of the AGOA Acceleration Act of 2004

By the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including section 301 of title 3, United States Code, I hereby delegate to you the functions and authorities assigned to the President under section 9 of the AGOA Acceleration Act of 2004 (19 U.S.C. 3701 note).

You are authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

Remarks Following a Cabinet Meeting and an Exchange With Reporters

July 13, 2005

The President. Thank you all for coming. We have just finished our third Cabinet meeting of the year. I want to thank my Secretaries for being here today, and thank you for the briefing. Today's briefing reminded us about the strength of our economy. We had some good news today. The OMB is going to announce that the 2005 deficit is \$94 billion less than previously expected. In other words, revenues are coming in greater than anticipated. It's a sign that our economy is strong, and it's a sign that our tax relief plan, our progrowth policies, are working.

I told the Congress and told the country we'd cut the deficit in half by 2009. We're